How Do Teachers Experience Students’ Information Literacy

Ann-Katrin Perselli
Kajsa Gustafsson Åman
Linköping University Library
CK IV 2006-08-18

Linköping University

- 26 500 students
- 3 500 employees
- 105 library staff

http://www.liu.se/om-liu/

Background

- The Project
- CUL, Centre for Education and Teaching
- Pedagogical education for all teachers
- Information Literacy vs Information Seeking
The Inquiry

- Method
  - Interviews

- Interviewees
  - Ten lecturers
  - Two cities
  - Institute of Technology, Faculty of Arts and Science, Faculty of Educational Science

Our Fields of Questions

- The lecturers view on:
  - Their own information literacy
  - The information literacy of the students
  - The role of the library
  - The role of the university teacher
  - Collaboration and CUL

What Have We Found?

- Our outcomes in subject fields:
  - 1. The information literacy of the students
  - 2. Responsibility
  - 3. Information seeking education
  - 4. The information literacy of the teachers
  - 5. The library
  - 6. Collaboration
  - 7. CUL
1. The Information Literacy of the Students

- “a naïve childish concept that is fully acceptable at my seven-year-old son”
- Do not use scientific literature
- Difficulties reading English

1. The Information Literacy of the Students. (cont.)

- Question 8: How do you want a student of yours to seek information for a graduate thesis?
- Question 6: What should a student know of information seeking?
- Question 9: What does a qualitatively good graduate thesis contain?

1. The Information Literacy of the Students. (cont.)

- What are students to know?
  - Curiosity and creativity
  - Critical view
  - Finding relevant information
  - Incorporate the substance
  - Transform to knowledge
A good thesis should contain:
- A clear thread
- A good form, method and analysis
- Contribute to science
- Problemize
- Theoretical background
- Tie together data and theory and make new knowledge

Information literacy
- The Expanded Definition, Christine Doyle (1994)
- The Relational Model, Christine Bruce (1997)
- The Swedish Higher Education Act, Chapter 1 § 9 (Law 1992:1434)

Discrepancies:
- Small connection between intent and result
- Misses the gaining of knowledge
- Thesis as an final product
2. Responsibility

- “Someone else’s job” Hansson & Rimsten (2005)
- Programme board
- Teacher
- Librarian
- Student
- Everyone

3. Information Seeking Education

- Vaccine
- Ray of education
- Progression

4. The Information Literacy of the Teachers

- Part of the job
- Doctoral student period
- Taught by librarians – no thanks
- Information stress
5. The Library
- Physical
- Electronic
- Periodicals – humanities - science

6. Collaboration
- Subject librarians
- Literature lunches
- Social and cultural differences
  Christiansen, (2004)

7. CUL
- Criticism
  - Announcements to late
  - A minimum of teaching tips
  - Courses in information literacy
- Suggestions
  - An arena
Our suggestions

- Curriculum development
- Library education descriptions
- Newly employed
- Pedagogical development

The report will be available at

www.liu.se/org/cul